



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Case No. 98,189-P1)

Application of:

William Richards)
Serial No.: 10/601,925)
Filed: June 23, 2003)
Title: Automated Molecular Pathology Apparatus)
Having Independent Slide Heaters)

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Brian R. Gordon

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In regard to the above identified application:

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- A. Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection over a Prior Patent No. 6,582,962
- B. Return Receipt Postcard

2. With respect to additional fees:

 A. No additional fee is required.
 X B. Attached is a check in the amount of \$130.00

3. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

4. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described in paragraph 1 hereinabove, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 27th of February, 2006.

By C. Blair Hughes
A Blair Hughes
Reg. No. 32,901

McDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT
& BERGHOFF
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING
REJECTION OVER A "PRIOR" PATENTDocket Number (Optional)
98-189-P1

In re Application of: Richards et al.

Application No.: 10/601,925

Filed: June 23, 2003

For: Automated Molecular Pathology Apparatus Having Independent Slide Heaters

The owner*, Ventana Medical Systems, Inc., of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term prior patent No. 6,582,962 as the term of said prior patent is defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173, and as the term of said prior patent is presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of the term of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173 of the prior patent, "as the term of said prior patent is presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer," in the event that said prior patent later:

- expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee;
- is held unenforceable;
- is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321;
- has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate;
- is reissued; or
- is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

Check either box 1 or 2 below, if appropriate.

1. For submissions on behalf of a business/organization (e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.), the undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of the business/organization.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2. The undersigned is an attorney or agent of record. Reg. No. 32,901

February 27, 2006

Date

A. Blair Hughes

Typed or printed name

312 913 2123

Telephone Number

Terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) is included.

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*Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is required if terminal disclaimer is signed by the assignee (owner). Form PTO/SB/96 may be used for making this statement. See MPEP § 324.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.321. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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